



Travel more intelligently with
World Factbook Travel Facts



WORLD
FACTBOOK

South Korea

US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens exercise normal precautions in South Korea due to COVID-19. Consult its website via the link below for updates to travel advisories and statements on safety, security, local laws and special circumstances in this country.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

Passport/Visa Requirements

US citizens should make sure their passport is valid at the date of their entering the country and during the length of their entire visit. They should also make sure they have at least 1 blank page in their passport for any entry stamp that will be required. A visa is not required for stays of less than 90 days.

US Embassy/ Consulate

[82] (2) 397-4114; US Embassy Seoul, 188 Sejong-daero, Jongno-gu, Seoul, Korea 03141

Vaccinations

See WHO recommendations

<http://www.who.int>

Climate

Temperate, with rainfall heavier in summer than winter; cold winters

Currency (Code)

South Korean won (KRW)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

220 V / 60 Hz / plug type(s): F



Major Languages

Korean, English (widely taught in elementary, junior high, and high school)

Religions

Protestant 19.7%, Buddhist 15.5%, Catholic 7.9%, none 56.9%; note: many people also carry on at least some Confucian traditions and practices

Time Difference

UTC+9 (14 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)

Potable Water

Yes, but some opt for bottled water.

International Driving Permit

Suggested

Road Driving Side

Right

Tourist destinations

Gamcheon Culture Village; Jeonju Hanok Village; Bridge of No Return; Hwaseong Fortress; Ganghwa Peace Observatory; Jindo Sea Parting; Seoraksan National Park; Seokguram Grotto & Bulguksa Temple; Jongmyo Shrine; Boryeong Mud Festival

Cultural Practices

It is regarded as rude to point with your fingers. Better to gesture with your arm or

hand. Casual physical contact, such as back slapping, is considered rude.

Tipping Guidelines

South Korea has a no-tip culture. Staff in restaurants and hotels, as well as taxi drivers, porters, and bellhops do not expect tips. Telling the taxi driver "keep the change" is appreciated. Most hotels add a compulsory 10% service charge to the

Telephone Code

82

**Local Emergency
Phone**

Ambulance: 119; Fire: 119; Police: 112

Please visit the following links to find further information about your desired destination.

[World Health Organization \(WHO\) - To learn what vaccines and health precautions to take while visiting your destination. http://www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

[US State Dept Travel Information - Overall information about foreign travel for US citizens. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html)

[To obtain an international driving permit \(IDP\). Only two organizations in the US issue IDPs: American Automobile Association \(AAA\) \(www.aaa.com\) and American Automobile Touring Alliance \(AATA\) \(www.aataidp.com\)](http://www.aaa.com)

US citizens may call the US Dept of State (+1-202-501-4444) for emergencies abroad.

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